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Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) I am requesting access to the following records related to the 3Ts Lead in Schools program in New Jersey:

1. Any reports, memos, summaries, and/or assessments created pursuant to the "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools" program from 2003 to the present for the following New Jersey school districts:
 - a. Newark,
 - b. Paterson,
 - c. Eatontown,
 - d. Irvington,
 - e. New Brunswick,
 - f. Trenton,
 - g. Jersey City,
 - h. Weehawken,
 - i. Union City,
 - j. Atlantic City,
 - k. Belleville,
 - l. Bridgeton
2. All recordkeeping forms for each water sample collected in accordance with the "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools" program from 2003 to the present for the following New Jersey school districts:
 - a. Newark,
 - b. Paterson,
 - c. Eatontown,
 - d. Irvington,
 - e. New Brunswick,
 - f. Trenton,
 - g. Jersey City,
 - h. Weehawken,
 - i. Union City,
 - j. Atlantic City,
 - k. Belleville,
 - l. Bridgeton
3. Laboratory test results for all water samples collected in accordance with the "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools" program from 2003 to the present for the following New Jersey school districts:
 - a. Newark,
 - b. Paterson,

- c. Eatontown,
- d. Irvington,
- e. New Brunswick,
- f. Trenton,
- g. Jersey City,
- h. Weehawken,
- i. Union City,
- j. Atlantic City,
- k. Belleville,
- l. Bridgeton

I am a reporter for *The (Bergen) Record* and am preparing a report for which the requested information is an important element. The information concerns governmental operations and activities, namely the testing for lead in public schools, and the records will contribute to my understanding of those operations and activities. My report will thereby significantly contribute to public understanding of the subject because it will indicate the extent to which school district officials in New Jersey know that their water systems are contaminated with lead.

For these reasons, as provided in 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), I ask that fees be waived. If fees are not waived, I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees in an amount not to exceed \$25, but I request to be notified before processing incurs expenses in excess of that amount.

I am requesting expedited processing for the same reasons that I have requested a fee waiver. In addition, expedited processing is required because elevated lead levels have been recently found in the drinking water of 30 schools in Newark, New Jersey. Water sampling results for various New Jersey schools conducted by the EPA can indicate what other schools are at risk, as well inform the public through my reporting what actions the EPA has undertaken to determine that the drinking water is safe.

If a portion of the information I have requested is exempt from disclosure by express provisions of law, 5 U.S.C. 552(b) additionally requires segregation and deletion of that material in order that the remainder of the information may be released. If you determine that an express provision of law exists to exempt from disclosure all or a portion of the material I have requested, 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i) requires notification to me of the reasons for the determination not later than 20 days from your receipt of this request.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request, and I look forward to a response within the statutory 20-day period.

Very truly yours,

Matt McGrath
The Bergen Record